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Man Convicted of Raping Teenage Girl

A 50-year-old man was convicted yesterday afternoon of drugging and raping a 14-year-old girl in 2013, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

A jury deliberated for four hours before finding William G. Cortez (dob 9/29/64) guilty of forcible rape – child victim over 14 years, forcible oral copulation – minor victim over 14 years, and two counts of adult using minor in case VA134949.

Cortez is scheduled to be sentenced June 8 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Department 126. The defendant is expected to be sentenced to 50 years to life in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Michael DeRose, who prosecuted the case, said on Oct. 28, 2013, Cortez met two 14-year-old girls and brought them to a house to smoke methamphetamine.

One of the girls decided to go home, however the other 14-year-old was too intoxicated to leave, the prosecutor said.

While with the remaining teen, Cortez injected her with methamphetamine, the prosecutor added. Following the injection, Cortez raped the girl.

The victim's mother went looking for her daughter and learned from the other 14-year-old where Cortez took the girl, the prosecutor said. The mother located her daughter and then contacted authorities about the sex assault.

Authorities subsequently arrested Cortez in connection with the incident.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.